There are fifteen faculty members in Psychology at CSU San Marcos who can serve as thesis advisers to graduate students. If you are a potential applicant you should read the following entries and decide if one or more lists research interests that match your own. Prior to submitting your application, you should contact individual faculty members with whom you might like to do research.

++Sara J. Bufferd, Ph.D. (Stony Brook University) (sbufferd@csusm.edu)
Clinical psychology; developmental psychopathology; assessment of young children's emotional and behavioral problems, temperament, psychosocial functioning, and stressors; parental behavior and psychopathology; depression and anxiety.


++Nancy G. Caine, Ph.D. (University of California Davis) (ncaine@csusm.edu)
Comparative psychology; behavior of nonhuman primates; antipredator and sensory adaptations in marmosets; laterality.


++Dustin P. Calvillo, Ph.D. (University of California Santa Barbara) (dcalvill@csusm.edu) Higher-order cognition; judgment and decision making; reasoning; memory; inattentional blindness; problem solving; applied cognitive psychology; psychology and the law.


++Kimberly L. D'Anna-Hernandez, Ph.D. (University of Wisconsin Madison) (kdanna@csusm.edu). Behavioral neuroscience; maternal defense and care behavior in mice, human maternal psychosocial and biological stress systems (cortisol) in pregnancy and the role of acculturation on the mother-infant dyad in Mexican-American women.


++Maureen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D. (University of California Irvine) (mjfitzpa@csusm.edu) Lifespan developmental psychology; socioemotional development of infants and young children; emotional competence; parent-child interactions, including grandparent-grandchild relationships; gender development.


++ Elisa J. Grant-Vallone, Ph.D. (Claremont Graduate University) (evallone@csusm.edu) Organizational psychology; work and family issues; work environments and employee health and well-being.


++ Sharon B. Hamill, Ph.D. (University of California Irvine) (shamill@csusm.edu) Developmental psychology; the impact of Alzheimer’s Disease on the family; multigenerational family relationships among middle-aged adults and adolescent
children (i.e., the “sandwich” generation); the development of personal responsibility in adolescents and emerging adults.


++Heike I.M. Mahler, Ph.D. (University of California San Diego) (hmahler@csusm.edu) Health psychology and social psychology; coping with stressful medical procedures, psychosocial interventions to enhance health promotion efforts.


++ Kim Pulvers, Ph.D., MPH (University of Kansas) (kpulvers@csusm.edu) Clinical psychology; disease prevention and health promotion; addictive behaviors particularly nicotine and tobacco use; stress and mental health; distress tolerance; positive psychology; health disparities.


++P. Wesley Schultz, Ph.D. (Claremont Graduate University) (wschultz@csusm.edu) Social psychology and statistics; applied social psychology, conservation and environmental psychology.


++Miri am W. Schustack, Ph.D. (Carnegie-Mellon University) (mschusta@csusm.edu) Cognitive psychology; the development of literacy; reasoning and problem solving; cognition and personality.


++ Marie D. Thomas, Ph.D. (Fordham University) (mthomas@csusm.edu). Psychological measurement, statistics and research methodology, mindfulness, positive psychology, scholarship of teaching, gender issues.


++ Keith A. Trujillo, Ph.D. (University of California Irvine) (keith@csusm.edu). Pharmacology and toxicology; behavioral neuroscience and psychopharmacology with a focus on adolescence, drugs of abuse, antidepressants and antipsychotics. Also very involved in the preparation of students for graduate study in the biomedical and behavioral sciences.


++Kimmie Vanderbilt, Ph.D. (University of California San Diego)
Social cognitive development, developmental psychology, the development of selective trust in preschool children, children’s understanding of mental states, children’s understanding of deception and bias in other’s testimony, cognitive, social and conceptual development, sociocultural influences on development.


++ Carrick Williams, Ph.D. (Michigan State University). Cognitive psychology; visual search; attention; memory; eye movements; scene and object perception.
